

REMARKS

In the Office Action¹, the Examiner objected took the following actions:

objected to claim 7;

rejected claims 1, 5, 7, and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,806,906 to Soga et al. ("Soga");

rejected claims 2, 3, 8, and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Soga* in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0257458 to Huang et al. ("Huang");

rejected claims 4 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Soga* in view of *Huang* and U.S. Patent No. 7,511,742 to Ito et al. ("Ito"); and

rejected claims 6 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Soga* in view of *Huang* and U.S. Patent No. 6,188,432 to Ejima ("Ejima").

Applicants amend claims 1-3, 7-9, and 12, and cancel claims 4 and 10.

Applicants also add new claims 13-17. No impermissible new matter has been added.

Claim 1-3, 5-9, and 11-17 are pending.

Applicants respectfully traverse the objections to the specification and claim 7.

While Applicants traverse these objections, Applicants have amended the specification and claim 7 to address the Examiner's concerns. Accordingly, the objections should be withdrawn.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections of claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(b) and 103(a). Enclosed herewith is a certified translation of Applicants' foreign priority document. As Applicants' priority document supports claims 4 and 10, whose

¹ The Office Action may contain statements reflecting characterizations of the related art and the claims. Regardless of whether any such statement is identified herein, Applicant decline to automatically subscribe to any statement or characterization in the Office Action.

features have been incorporated into each of the independent claims, *Ito* is not available as prior art. *Ito* was filed in the U.S. on March 7, 2005. Applicants' priority document, however, was filed on November 4, 2004. Accordingly, *Ito* is not prior art under § 102(e), nor is *Ito* prior art under any other section of § 102. Accordingly, Applicants request allowance of the claims.

New claims 13-17, while different in scope, recite similar limitations as the above claims.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to Deposit Account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: August 17, 2010

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